

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated February 5, 2007. Claims 16-29 are presented for examination, of which Claims 16, 19, 22 and 26 are in independent form. Claims 16, 19, 22 and 26 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicant regards as his invention. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Claims 22-29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claims have been carefully reviewed and amended as deemed necessary to ensure that they conform fully to the requirements of Section 112, first paragraph, with special attention to the points raised in paragraph 3 of the Office Action. Specifically, Claims 22 and 26 have been amended to delete reference to the terms “portrait print sheet” and “landscape print sheet.” It is believed that the rejection under Section 112, first paragraph, has been obviated, and its withdrawal is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 16-29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,809,834 (Sato).

As shown above, Applicant has amended independent Claims 16, 19, 22 and 26 in terms that more clearly define what he regards as his invention. Applicant submits that these amended independent claims, together with the remaining claims dependent thereon, are patentably distinct from the cited prior art for at least the following reasons.

Claim 16 is directed to a printer including a control unit having a first memory for storing image data with a first orientation generated based on print data received from an external apparatus and a transfer unit for performing DMA-transferring of the image data with

the first orientation read from the first memory. Also included is an engine unit having a second memory for storing the image data received from the control unit and a print engine for printing the image data stored in the second memory. The transfer unit includes a third memory for storing the image data with the first orientation read from the first memory, and reads the image data from the third memory as image data with a second orientation for performing image rotation and transfers the read image data with the second orientation to the second memory. The third memory is connected to the second memory through a first bus, the first memory is connected to the third memory through a second bus, and the second memory is connected to the print engine through a third bus.

Among other notable features of Claim 16 is that the third memory is connected to the second memory through a first bus, the first memory is connected to the third memory through a second bus, and the second memory is connected to the print engine through a third bus. By virtue of the structure recited in Claim 16, image data flows through different buses during different stages of the printing process, thus allowing the buses not being used for image data transfer in connection with the printing process to be available to other devices.

Sato relates to an image forming apparatus including an image forming section, a page memory for storing image data to be transferred to the image forming section, and a DMA controller. The DMA controller continuously transfers a plurality of words of image data with the same row address from the page memory to the image forming section. Sato discusses the use of the DMA controller to transfer image data from the page memory to a vertical/horizontal conversion, which outputs vertical/horizontal converted image data. The DMA controller returns the converted image data to the same addresses of the page memory by DMA transfer.

Subsequently, the DMA controller transfers the converted image data from the page memory to a plotter in a rotated condition. In Sato, the data flows through the same bus during each stage of the printing process and, therefore, that bus is not available to other devices during the printing process. Thus, Applicant has found nothing in Sato that would teach or suggest “wherein said third memory is connected to said second memory through a first bus, said first memory is connected to said third memory through a second bus, and said second memory is connected to said print engine through a third bus,” as recited in Claim 16.

Independent Claims 19, 22 and 26 recite features similar to those discussed above with respect to Claim 16 and therefore are also believed to be patentable over Sato for the reasons discussed above.

A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicant’s opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as references against the independent claims herein. Those claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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